Privatisation of National Dairy Development Board

2020. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to privatise National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the reasons for privatising the National Dairy Board;

(c) whether Government propose to reconsider the proposal and to revamp the Board since it is able to provide large scale employment; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Central Government to privatise National Dairy Development Board.

Support price of linseed crop

†2021. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request is being made by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to Government to announce the support price of linseed crop;

(b) if so, the support price of linseed crop announced by Government this year; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) The Government of India received a proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for bringing linseed under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme and announce support price of linseed. The case was examined and found not feasible to agree to the proposal for various reasons, including the fact that the production of linseed is localized in nature whereas

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

only those commodities are covered under MSP Scheme which have all India imortance in terms of Area and production.

International co-operation in Agriculture

2022. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that international co-operation in the field of Agriculture is not sufficient considering importance of agriculture in our economy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) details of initiatives Government have taken so far in this regard for greater international-co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) India has taken effective steps for international co-operation in the field of agriculture. Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) have so far been signed with 34 countries for bilateral cooperation in the field of agriculture including phytosanitary and veterinary agreements. The objective of bilateral Agreements/MOUs is to exchange experiences of agricultural development between countries and to extend mutual benefit and cooperation for each other's development.

The Agreement on Plant Quarantine and Plant Protection and in the Veterinary field aim, *inter-alia*, at the prevention of the penetration and spreading of quarantine pests, plant diseases and weeds and spread of infective diseases on the territories of both the countries while trading in agricultural projects, animals, animal products, raw materials of animal origin and animal feed. These kind of agreements facilitate development of India's trade in agricultural and veterinary products with these countries.

India is an active member of several international organisations, such as, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Food Programme etc. India is also a beneficiary of the programmes of all these organisations.